UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE

BGH HOLDINGS LLC, et al.,

Plaintiff.

v.

D.L. EVANS BANK,

Defendant.

Case No. C18-1408RSL

ORDER DENYING DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO SEAL

This matter comes before the Court on defendant's "Second Motion to Seal" (Dkt. # 156). Defendant filed this motion in tandem with its motion for summary judgment (Dkt. # 158), as its motion for summary judgment incorporated information that plaintiffs' previously designated confidential.

"There is a strong presumption of public access to the court's files," and, absent a showing that the public's right of access is outweighed by the interests of the public and/or the parties in shielding the material from public view, a seal is not appropriate. LCR 5(g). Accordingly, parties are expected to explore all alternatives to filing a document under seal. *Id.* 5(g)(1). In its recent summary judgment Order, the Court reminded the parties of the procedure for filing a document under seal in accordance with the Court's local rules. *See* Dkt. # 176. Specifically, the Court ordered the parties to meet and confer on the need to file the document under seal in compliance with Local Rule 5(g)(3)(A). *Id.* The Court further specified that if the parties found the motion must be filed under seal, plaintiffs must file a response to defendant's

motion to seal, providing the reasons for keeping the document under seal pursuant to LCR 5(g)(3)(B). *Id*. On May 12, 2023, defendant filed a "report," informing the Court that the parties have conferred as directed and have agreed that the motion filed at Dkt. # 158 "need not be sealed." Dkt. # 180 at 2. Accordingly, the Court DENIES defendant's motion to seal (Dkt. # 156). The Clerk of Court is directed to unseal the motion filed at Dkt. # 158. IT IS SO ORDERED. DATED this 18th day of May, 2023. United States District Judge

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